



TOWN OF GROTON

173 Main Street
Groton, Massachusetts 01450-1237
Tel: (978) 448-1111
Fax: (978) 448-1115

Board of Selectmen

John G. Petropoulos, *Chair*
Anna Eliot, *Vice Chair*
Stuart M. Schulman, *Clerk*
Peter S. Cunningham, *Member*
Joshua A. Degen, *Member*

Town Manager
Mark W. Haddad

August 24, 2015

RE: MB Docket No. 15-149

Tom Wheeler
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Wheeler,

As the Town Manager for the Town of Groton, MA, I am writing to offer my support for the merger of Charter Communications, Time Warner Cable and Bright House Networks.

Charter has served the residents and businesses in the Town of Groton well for many years. They compete effectively with Verizon Fios and the satellite providers. Just last year, Charter made a major investment in its network here in Groton by upgrading to all-digital. This not only dramatically increased the number of HD channels available to local residents but more than doubled the standard Internet speed available. They are providing local residents and businesses with a solid choice among broadband providers.

I have been involved in franchise renewal negotiations with Charter several times, and have always appreciated their straightforward approach to dealing with town government and responding to customer concerns. It is my understanding that the New Charter resulting from the merger will take advantage of the best aspects of each of the three companies. I know the customers in the Time Warner and Bright House areas will appreciate the responsiveness of Charter and the fast Internet speeds, and I look forward on behalf of our residents to the proposed expansion of the Bright House low income broadband service and the public Wi-Fi hotspots that Time Warner customers enjoy today.

I urge you and your fellow commissioners to approve the merger so that more consumers nationwide can have the same positive cable company experience that we have had with Charter.

Sincerely,

Mark W. Haddad
Town Manager